

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 20 October 1954

SUBJECT The June Plebiscite

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

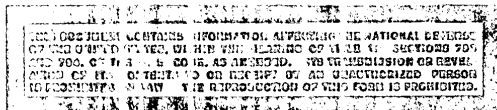
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DATE OF  
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The voting procedure for the plebiscite in the GDR was correct in the Berlin-Pankow precinct. During the three days of the voting, the polling place was permanently occupied by five election functionaries. At night, the sealed ballot boxes were guarded by two members of the election committee. The counting of the votes cast was started at 8 P.M. on 29 June 1954. Of 977 persons who were entitled to vote, 888 voted for the conclusion of a peace treaty and withdrawal of the occupation armies, 17 for the EDC Treaty, 52 cast invalid votes, and 20 abstained from voting. The counting of the votes was done in public and in an apparently correct manner.
2. From one of the suburbs of Berlin it is also reported that the voting procedure was correct. Envelopes for the ballots were not issued; the ballots had to be folded together before being dropped into the ballot boxes. The public was admitted to the counting procedure. Blank ballots were classified as being cast in favor of the conclusion of a peace treaty. On one ballot the voter had written "Nothing but Fraud", and this ballot was counted as a vote against EDC. If the cross to be put into the circles reserved for the votes in favor of EDC was not marked correctly, the ballot was counted as invalid.
3. When the votes cast for the plebiscite were counted in Gushlen-Glienicke, it was learned that one third of the electorate had voted for EDC, one third for peace, and one third had given invalid votes. According to the directives issued by the SED, the invalid votes had to be added to the peace votes.
4. The burgomaster of Zechlin Dorf was removed from his office one day after the plebiscite, because he had counted the votes correctly without observing the SED directives. The votes were cast as follows: 58 % for EDC, 18 % for peace, and 21 % invalid. The inhabitants of Zechlin Dorf were told that their burgomaster had been removed from office because of undemocratic conduct.
5. In Wallitz, Lums, Frankendorf, Steinberge, Neu-Glienicke, Bienenwalde, Zechlen, and Zechlin-Flecken more than 50 % of the electorate voted for EDC.

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